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On Passing Away of Vice-President Choi Yong Kun

Obituary

PYONGYANG (KCNA)— The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Central People's Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on September 19 published the obituary of Comrade Choi Yong Kun, which reads:

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Comrade Choi Yong Kun, Member of the Central Committee, and Member of the Political Committee of the Central Committee, of the Workers' Party of Korea, Member of the Central People's Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and vice-President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, passed away at 23 hours 25 minutes on September 19, 1976 at the age of 76 after a long illness.

Comrade Choi Yong Kun is a faithful revolutionary fighter who devoted his all to the successful fulfilment of our revolution, upholding the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung with a single heart since he took the road of revolution.

In the dark days of the Japanese imperialist rule, Comrade Choi Yong Kun participated in the glorious anti-Japanese armed struggle organised and led by the respected and beloved leader of our people Comrade Kim Il Sung and waged an indomitable struggle with arms in his hand and fought a selfless struggle for the liberation of the fatherland and the freedom and liberation of the people.

In the days of the bloody anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, he staunchly defended and carried through the Juche-oriented revolutionary line of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung on the Korean revolution and actively strove to firmly build up the anti-Japanese armed ranks and expand, strengthen and develop the armed struggle.

After the liberation, holding aloft the unique revolutionary lines and policies put forward by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, he devoted his all to the work of founding the Workers' Party of Korea, the worker-peasant revolutionary power and the Korean People's Army and conducted brisk activities for the people's democratic revolution and the building of a new fatherland.

In the period of the great Fatherland Liberation War of our people against the U.S. imperialists' armed invasion, Comrade Choi Yong Kun, in the capacity of the Minister of National Defence, organised and mobilised People's Army units with good ability in routing the enemy and performed great feats in ensuring the victory in the Fatherland Liberation War, holding aloft the outstanding military idea and Juche-oriented strategic and tactical policies of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung.

At important posts of the Party and the state, Comrade Choi Yong Kun, upholding the teachings of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, carried out energetic activities for the victory of the socialist revolution and the successful fulfilment of socialist construction and waged a devoted struggle to staunchly defend and uphold the unity and cohesion of our Party based on the Juche idea and consolidate and develop our state and social systems.

Under the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, he devoted all his energies to the acceleration of the independent reunification of the fatherland and the nation-wide victory of the revolution and, holding aloft the independent and principled foreign policy advanced by the respected and beloved leader, conducted brisk activities to enhance the international position of our Party and Republic.

Indeed, Comrade Choi Yong Kun, till the last moments of his life, firmly established the monolithic ideological system of the Party and remained boundlessly faithful only to the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, not vacillating in the least under any difficult and complex circumstances and, following the teachings of the great leader, waged a selfless struggle by devoting all his energies for the strengthening and development of our Party and the prosperity and grandeur of the fatherland and the happiness of the people and for the victory of the cause of socialism and communism in our country.

Though Comrade Choi Yong Kun passed away, the lofty exploits he performed for our Party, fatherland and people will remain long.

May you rest in peace, Comrade!

President KIM IL SUNG Expresses Condolences

PYONGYANG, Sep. 21 (KCNA)— Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great leader of our Party and our people, September 20 expressed deep condolences upon the death of Comrade Choi Yong Kun, Member of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Member of the Political Committee of the Central Committee of the Party, Member of the Central People's Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and vice-President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, at the bier of the deceased.

A wreath sent by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung was placed by the side of the bier.

Also placed there were wreaths sent by the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Central People's Committee and the Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The family and relatives of the deceased were standing by the bier.

A guard of honour was lined up by the sides of the bier of the deceased.

Amid the solemn playing of the funeral music the hall was pervaded with deep grief over losing a dear revolutionary comrade.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung observed a moment's silence in memory of the deceased with deep grief, expressed deep condolences to the bereaved family of the deceased and gave words of warm consolation.

Comrades Kim Il, Kim Dong Gyu, Kang Ryang Uk, Pak Sung Chul, Choe Hyon, O Jin U, So Chol, Rim Chun Chu, Li Gun Mo, Yon Hyong Mu, Yang Hyong Sop, Chon Mun Sop, O Baek Ryong, Han Ik Su, Li Yong Mu, Hyon Mu Gwang, Kim Yong Nam, Chong Jun Gi, Kim Chol Man, Kang Song San, Ho Dam, Kong Jin Tae, Choe Jae U, Li Jong Ok, Kim Hwan, Yun Gi Bok, Hwang Jang Yop, Kang Hyon Su, Kang Hui Won, Kim Jung Rin, Kim Byong Ha, Hong Gi Mun, Ho Jong Suk, Chon Chang Chol, Kim Guk Hun, Kim Song Ae, Kim I Hun, Chi Jae Ryong, Li Du Chan, O Hyon Ju, Chon Se Bong and Li Myon Sang and wives of cadres of the Party and Government expressed deep condolences at the bier of the deceased.

State Funeral Committee Composed

PYONGYANG (KCNA)— The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Central People's Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea announced as follows:

1. The funeral for the late Comrade Choi Yong Kun will be held as a state funeral.

2. The state funeral committee for the late Comrade Choi Yong Kun is composed as follows:

Comrade Kim Il Sung

Comrades Kim Il, Kim Dong Gyu, Kang Ryang Uk, Pak Sung Chul, Choe Hyon, O Jin U, So Chol, Rim Chun Chu, Li Gun Mo, Yon Hyong Muk, Yang Hyong Sop, Chon Mun Sop, O Beak Ryong, Han Ik Su, Li Yong Mu, Hyon Mu Gwang, Kim Yong Nam, Chong Jun Gi, Kim Chol Man, Kang Song San, Ho Dam, Kong Jin Tae, Choe Jae U, Li Jong Ok, Kim Hwan, Yun Gi Bok, Hwang Jang Yop, Kang Hyon Su, Kang Hui Won, Kim Jung Rin, Kim Man Gum, Kim Byong Ha, Hong Gi Mun, Ho Jong Suk, Chon Chang Chol, Kim Guk Hun, Kim Song Ae, Kim I Hun, Chi Jae Ryong, Li Du Chan, O Hyon Ju, Chon Se Bong and Li Myon Sang.

Funeral Ceremony Held

PYONGYANG, Sep. 23 (KCNA) —A solemn state funeral ceremony for the late Comrade Choi Yong Kun, Member of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Member of the Political Committee of the Central Committee of the Party, Member of the Central People's Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and vice-President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, was held in Pyongyang, the capital of revolution, on September 22.

The streets of Pyongyang were in deep grief upon paying the last homage to the late Comrade Choi Yong Kun.

Present at the ceremony were Comrades Kim Dong Gyu, Kang Ryang Uk, Pak Sung Chul, O Jin U, So Chol, Li Gun Mo, Yon Hyong Muk, Yang Hyong Sop, O Baek Ryong, Han Ik Su, Li Yong Mu, Hyon Mu Gwang, Kim Yong Nam, Chong Jun Gi, Kim Chol Man, Kang Song San, Ho Dam, Kong Jin Tae, Choe Jae U, Li Jong Ok, Kim Hwan, Yun Gi Bok, Hwang Jang Yop, Kang Hyon Su, Kang Hui Won, Kim Jung Rin, Kim Byong Ha, Hong Gi Mun, Ho Jong Suk, Chon Chang Chol, Kim Guk Hun, Kim Song Ae, Kim I Hun, Chi Jae Ryong, Li Du Chan, O Hyon Ju, Chon Se Bong and Li Myon Sang, and department directors of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, ministers of the Administration Council, responsible personages of central organs and public organisations, anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters and the bereaved family and relatives of the deceased.

At 10 A.M. the members of the state funeral committee carried out the coffin to the solemn strains of funeral music.

The mourners expressed deep condolences with sorrow.

The hearse carrying the coffin of the deceased slowly moved toward the cemetery.

The cars carrying the bereaved family and relatives of the deceased, members of the state funeral committee and mourners followed the hearse.

Working people, People's Army soldiers, housewives and students in the city saw off the hearse with deep grief.

The hearse arrived at the Sinmiri cemetery on the outskirts of Pyongyang.

A guard of honour lined up by the sides of the grave.

A solemn ceremony for paying the last respects to the deceased was presided over by Comrade Chon Chang Chol.

A memorial address of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Central People's Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was made by Comrade Kim Dong Gyu.

He said:

Comrade Choi Yong Kun participated in the anti-Japanese armed struggle organised and led by the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung for the restoration of the fatherland and the freedom and liberation of the people in the dark period of the Japanese imperialists' colonial rule and waged an indomitable struggle to resolutely defend and carry through the great leader's Juche-based revolutionary line on the Korean revolution, firmly build up the ranks of the anti-Japanese armed struggle and expand, strengthen and develop the armed struggle.

Upholding the original revolutionary lines and policies of the great leader, Comrade Choi Yong Kun devoted his all to the work of founding the Workers' Party of Korea, the revolutionary power of the workers and peasants and the Korean People's Army after liberation, made energetic activities for the carrying out of the people's democratic revolution, the building of a new country, the victory of the socialist revolution and the successful socialist construction, working at important posts of the Party and the state and waged an active struggle to firmly defend and guard the unity and cohesion of our Party based on the Juche idea, promote the prosperity and development of the country, accelerate the independent reunification of the country and raise the international prestige of our Party and Republic.

Till the last moment of his life Comrade Choi Yong Kun firmly established the monolithic ideological system of the Party, remained infinitely faithful only to the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung without the slightest vacillation under whatever difficult and complicate circumstances and devotedly fought for the strengthening and development of our Party, the grandeur and prosperity of the country and the happiness of the people and for the victory of the cause of socialism and communism in our country, upholding the teachings of the respected and beloved leader.

Comrade Choi Yong Kun passed away on September 19, 1976, at the age of 76.

Though Comrade Choi Yong Kun passed away, his fighting exploits for our Party, state and people will remain long.

Letters and telegrams of condolence which came from various parts of the country, compatriots abroad and foreign countries on the passing away of Comrade Choi Yong Kun were read out.

The coffin of the deceased was laid in state in the grave to the solemn strains of funeral music and amid a minute-gun salute.

The bereaved family and relatives of the deceased, members of the state funeral committee and anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters covered the coffin with earth with deep sorrow.

Many bunches of flowers were placed before the grave of the deceased.

To the solemn strains of funeral music the members of the state funeral committee and mourners observed a moment's silence in memory of the late Comrade Choi Yong Kun.

Though Comrade Choi Yong Kun, a revolutionary soldier who had remained infinitely loyal to the great leader of our Party and our people Comrade Kim Il Sung, passed away, the valuable exploits performed by him for our Party, country and people will remain forever.

Brief History

PYONGYANG (KCNA)— Comrade Choi Yong Kun was born into a peasant family in Hasok *ri*, Yomju county, North Pyongan Province, on June 22, 1900.

Participating in the glorious anti-Japanese armed struggle organized and led by the great leader of the revolution Comrade Kim Il Sung, he fought for the freedom and independence of the fatherland. In the period of the anti-Japanese armed struggle he, upholding the Juche-based revolutionary line put forward by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, energetically fought to firmly build up the armed ranks and expand and develop the anti-Japanese armed struggle.

After liberation he worked at important posts of the Party and state organs thanks to the deep trust and solicitude of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung.

From February 1946 Comrade Choi Yong Kun worked as Director of the Security Department of the North Korean Provisional People's Committee and then the North Korean People's Committee and with the founding of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in September 1948 he worked as first Minister of National Defense.

Subsequently, he worked as vice-Premier of the Cabinet and concurrently Minister of National Defense of the DPRK and from September 1957 as President of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly and from December 1972 as vice-President of the DPRK.

Comrade Choi Yong Kun was elected Deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK from its first session in August 1948 to its fifth session and elected in December 1972 Member of the Central People's Committee of the DPRK.

From December 1945 to January 1946 Comrade Choi Yong Kun worked as Member of the Permanent Executive Committee of the Central Organizing Committee of the North Korean Communist Party.

At the 16th Plenary Meeting of the Second Central Committee of the Party in April 1955 he was elected Member, and Member of the Political Committee, of the Central Committee of the Party.

At the 17th Plenary Meeting of the Second Central Committee of the Party in December 1955 he was elected Member, and Member of the Political Committee and vice-Chairman, of the Central Committee of the Party.

At the Third Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea in April 1956 he was elected Member of the Central Committee of the Party and at the First Plenary Meeting of the Third Central Committee Member of the Presidium, and vice-Chairman, of the Central Committee of the Party.

At the Fourth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea in September 1961, he was elected Member of the Central Committee of the Party and at the First Plenary Meeting of the Fourth Central Committee Member of the Political Committee, and vice-Chairman, of the Central Committee of the Party.

At the 14th Plenary Meeting of the Fourth Central Committee of the Party in October 1966, he was elected Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party.

At the Fifth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea in November 1970, he was elected Member of the Central Committee of the Party and at the First Plenary Meeting of the Fifth Central Committee Member of the Political Committee, and Secretary, of the Central Committee of the Party.

He was elected Member of the Political Committee at the 7th Plenary Meeting of the Fifth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea in September 1973.

In recognition of the distinguished services he rendered to the victory in the Fatherland Liberation War and to the consolidation of the Party and the revolutionary power and to the prosperity and development of the country Comrade Choi Yong Kun was awarded the "Order of Kim Il Sung," the highest order of the Republic, and the Title of Labour Hero, the Order of National Flag First Class, the Order of Freedom and Independence First Class, the Order of the 20th Anniversary of the Founding of the Republic and many other orders.

Till the last moment of his life Comrade Choi Yong Kun remained infinitely loyal to Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great leader of our Party and people, and, upholding his leadership, devoted all his energy and wisdom to the struggle for the acceleration of the independent reunification of the country and the victory of the cause of socialism and communism in our country.

Richest Crops Visit DPRK; Cold Weather Overcome

A record harvest since the founding of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is confidently foreseen in the countryside of Juche Korea.

Under the wise leadership and great benevolence of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, bumper crops unparalleled in agricultural history have visited the fields of South Pyongan Province, immensely delighting people. And such bountiful crops are witnessed in all other rural districts of the country.

This year it is certain in all the areas and all the farms in South Pyongan Province, whether in the plain, in-between or mountainous areas, that a grain harvest much greater than last year's peak will be reaped.

According to a preliminary estimation, this year Mundok, Sukchon and Pyongwon counties, main rice producers of the country, and all other counties in plain areas are expected to increase the per hectare yield of rice by between 700 kilograms and more than one ton as compared with last year and, in Kaechon and Anju counties and other in-between and mountainous areas, it is confidently expected that the yield of maize per hectare will show a rise of more than one ton above last year.

A rise of 16,000 tons above last year in grain harvest is foreseen in Mundŏk county located in the Yoldusamcholli-bol Plain, South Pyongan Province. In Sukchon county the average per hectare yield of rice is expected to go up by more than 1.2 tons.

The per hectare yield of rice is expected to be more than one ton above last year's in the Namuri-bol Plain in Chaeryong, South Hwanghae Province, now abustle with rice harvesting.

The bumper crops hitherto unknown in agricutural history, which have been brought to the socialist cooperative fields of our country, bear eloquent testimony to the sagacity of the leadership of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and the great vitality of the Juche-based farming method founded by him.

Now the influence of the cold front is sweeping all continents and all regions of the world, making a mess of farming. In many countries, crops are drying in severe drought and arable land is devastated by floods.

This year, the cold front has seriously affected the farming of our country, too. The spring temperature was unusually low, a long spell of severe drought came with spring and summer and there were untimely downpours and heavy wind. Thus the weather was as unfavourable for agricultural production as never before.

But, thanks to the wise leadership of the great leader and the Juche-based farming method founded by him, our country has overcome the influence of the cold front and brought about rich crops.

The great leader defined the agricultural front as one of our main fronts this year, too, and vigorously aroused the whole Party and the entire people in the construction of the socialist countryside and the struggle for increased agricultural production.

Braving severe cold early in January, he visited a number of rural villages, deeply acquainted himself with farming conditions, and solved one by one all the problems arising in increasing agricultural production.

The great leader brightly indicated

(Continued on page 2)

Draft Res. Rescinded; U.S. Urged to Implement 30th UNGA Resolution

PYONGYANG, Sep. 22 (KCNA)—Kwon Min Jun, Permanent Observer of our country in the United Nations, made public a statement on the afternoon of September 21 before UN correspondents.

It said:

The co-sponsors of the agenda item and draft resolution "On Removing the Danger of War and Maintaining and Consolidating Peace in Korea and Accelerating the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea" have taken the step of withdrawing their agenda item and the draft resolution pertaining to it on their own initiative, taking into account the will of many UN member states hoping that there will be no debate on the Korean question at the UN General Assembly this year, last year's resolution of the General Assembly be fulfilled at an early date and a reasonable step be taken for the relaxation of tension and the consolidation of peace in Korea.

This is a constructive initiative urging the United States to practically accept the implementation of the just resolution of our side adopted at the UN General Assembly last year.

We fully support this step, considering that it is a very reasonable and just one proceeding from the sincere desire to practically solve the question. At the 30th Session of the UN General Assembly last year, a resolution on dissolving the "UN Command," withdrawing all the foreign troops from south Korea and replacing the armistice agreement with a peace agreement was adopted, which reflected the desire of the entire Korean people and the world peace-loving people.

But this just resolution has not been implemented due to the irresponsible acts on the part of the U.S. side.

We consider that if the United States truly want peace in Korea and her reunification, it should not futilely cling to the "two Koreas" policy but pay due attention to the sincere step taken by the co-sponsors of the draft resolution of our side on their own initiative and speedily implement the just resolution adopted last year.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Korean people will wage a vigorous struggle to have the just resolution of the UN General Assembly on the Korean question adopted last year implemented with the active support and encouragement of the governments and peoples of all the nations of the world which love justice and peace, the statement stressed.

Richest Crops Visit DPRK

The modernized Oguk-ri Cooperative Farm, Anak county, S. Hwanghae Province

(Continued from page 1)

a clear-cut direction and ways for this year's farming at a series of important meetings and a national meeting of agricultural activists.

Foreseeing that the influence of the cold front will tell heavily on our farming again this year, he took all necessary measures to keep it away.

The fatherly leader gave detailed teachings as to all questions arising in strictly applying the Juche-based farming method, such as the questions of extensively producing humus soil, applying cold-bed rice seedlings to 100 per cent of the paddy fields, raising maize seedlings in humus pots and transplanting them qualitatively, strictly abiding by the principles of right crop on right soil and right crop in right season, establishing a scientific manuring system for the effective use of fertilizers.

He saw to it that the whole Party, the whole country and the entire people rose to support the agricultural front on the largest ever scale and much more chemical fertilizers, herbicides and other agricultural chemicals, farm machines and accessories than last year were sent to the countryside.

The fatherly leader who always finds himself among the people went out to several rural villages on the west coast and taught concrete ways for growing crops by the Juche-based farming method.

When he visited North Hamgyong Province, the northernmost part of the country, he took measures to grow maize better to suit the conditions of the northern inland area and bring about a new turn in soybean cultivation.

The agricultural working people in all parts of the country who rose as one man in wholehearted response to the teachings of the great leader, have brought a record harvest this year through an effective farm work by raising a fiercer flame of the movement for winning the red flag of the three revolutions under the revolutionary motto "Let Us Meet the Requirements of Juche in Ideology, Technique and Culture!"

Our peasants are now firmly resolved to loyally repay the deep trust and solicitude of the fatherly leader by carrying to thorough fulfilment the instructions of the great leader in his recent on-the-spot guidance to cooperative farms in South Pyongan Province, with boundless joy at the bumper crops brought under his wise leadership.

(KCNA)

Agriculture Closer to Industrialization

Today in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea agriculture, once backward, offers ever closer resemblance to modern industry.

It is one of the important factors which have led to the present richest crops in the DPRK.

The great leader President Kim Il Sung taught:

"We can confidently say that we have now entered an era of complete industrialization and modernization of agriculture."

Under the bright rays of the theses on the rural question authored by the great leader, the rural technical revolution, the keynote of which is irrigation, mechanization, electrification and chemicalization, has made successful progress to bring about a spectacular turn in the industrialization and modernization of agriculture.

Under the Japanese imperialists' occupation that lasted more than 30 years, the peasants had to pull the ploughs like horses and do weeding, stooping all day long. But now they do farming joyfully with the help of machines and chemicals.

On the Guard Laureate Twice Chollima Chongsan Cooperative Farm, for instance, each farmer tends an average of five hectares of rice fields or ten hectares of dry fields with the help of machines and chemicals. As a result of the comprehensive mechanization of maize growing, 100 hectares of maize fields are tended by ten members of the third workteam of the Changryon Cooperative Farm in Unryul county, South Hwanghae Province. More than 200 workteams have come close to that level.

With the successful implementation of the great leader's policy of giving priority to irrigation in the rural technical revolution, the DPRK has long been called "a land of irrigation." It has now irrigation and drainage systems with a total length of 40,000 kilometres of water channels and, in this highly developed irrigation system, water is exchanged between the main irrigation works. The DPRK holds the world's top place in the density of irrigation channels.

The plan of the fatherly leader to make electricity reach all the rural villages and farm houses was completely realised in 1969. In the countryside electricity is extensively used not only in the farmers' family life but also as motor power and heat sources.

The annual power consumption in the countryside hit the high of 1,600 million kwh already in 1974.

An energetic struggle is afoot for the acceleration of comprehensive mechanization and chemicalization, the most important tasks for the rural technical revolution at present in the country.

The DPRK has got ahead of the United States in the number of the tractors for every 100 hectares of cultivated land.

By the summer of last year it had mechanised 100 per cent of thrashing, fodder-crushing and transport, 92 per cent of rice transplantation, 55 per cent of weeding and 66 per cent of harvesting on the scale of the country.

When the cooperative farms were taking shape, each of them had nothing but one or two draught cows and one or two ox-carts. But now it has scores of tractors, many lorries and various modern farm machines.

In the not distant future, the number of the tractors for every 100 hectares of the cultivated land will run to between 10 and 12 in the socialist countryside, with their supply reliably guaranteed by the powerful farm machine production centres of the country.

No small is the success in chemicalization either. Backed by the powerful chemical fertilizer industry, the per hectare application of chemical fertilizers has surpassed the one ton mark. In this, too, the DPRK ranks among the most advanced countries in the world.

Highly effective herbicides and other agricultural chemicals of wide variety lighten the work of the peasants.

Under the wise leadership and deep loving care of the great leader, the peasants will before long work eight hours a day like the workers, in their joyful farming by industrial method.

A rich harvest visits Oro-ri, Anak county, S. Hwanghae Province.

Latest Exploits of Three Revolutions

The working people of Chollima Korea have registered great successes through the vigorous movement for winning the red flag of the three revolutions.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung taught that the three revolutions, ideological, technical and cultural, should be pushed ahead energetically as a mass movement to further accelerate the socialist construction in the northern half of the Republic.

Ideological

The working people throughout the country are dynamically carrying on the ideological revolution, above all, arming themselves more firmly with the Juche idea, the revolutionary idea of the great leader, and displaying the revolutionary trait of implementing the teachings of the great leader unconditionally and thoroughly.

Technical

A new turn is taking place in the technical and cultural revolutions, too, as definite precedence is given to the ideological revolution and thus the revolutionary zeal of the working people heightened extraordinarily.

These days the workers of ore mines in various parts of the country are boosting production and construction, surpassing the average daily results of the previous month by 5 to 20 per cent in all indices—tunnelling, mining, pit construction, earth-scraping and so on.

The heroic workers of the Komdok Mine who were the first to raise the torch of the movement for winning the red flag of the three revolutions in December last year have registered a signal success in realizing the comprehensive mechanization of operations in the pits by introducing an increasing number of modern large hewing machines and large loading and transport installations at every cutting face and establishing the system of commanding production through wire and radio communications. As a result, they have doubled the ore output.

In the recent ten days the Tanchon District Mining Complex, upped the output of ores by 60 per cent, the Chagang Provincial Non-Ferrous Metal Mining Administration by 50 per cent and the Kangwon Provincial Non-Ferrous Metal Mining Administration by 30 per cent compared with the same period of the previous month.

The Anju Combined Coal Mine in the western region, a leading coal mine of the country where pit operations have been comprehensively mechanized, has raised the daily output of coal 1.8 to 2 times these days as against that of mid-August.

The Aoji, Hakpo and many other coal mines in the northern region are also increasing coal output these days.

Semi- and full-automation is progressing apace in the metallurgical, machine, cement and chemical and all other industrial domains of the national economy.

Emulating the example set by the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Works in automation under the guidance of the Party Central Committee, the rolling workers of Kangson automated the operation of the heating ovens and modernized various production processes, thereby increasing the production of steel slab 16 times as against the rated capacity. In the post-war period when the country was in a very difficult situation, they produced 120,000 tons of steel at a blooming mill with a rated capacity of 60,000 tons to demonstrate the stamina of the Korean working class.

The workers of the Chongjin Steel Works introduced remote control into the powdered coal supply system to turn difficult and harmful labour into easy one.

The steel makers of Hwanghae, Kim Chaek, Kangson and other places are jerking up the output to 117 per cent in pig iron, 127 per cent in steel and 142 per cent in rolled steel these days compared with the daily average in the first half year.

Vigorous endeavours are being made in the domain of machine industry to build more large-size machines and ordered equipment.

In the recent fortnight the workers of the machine plants in different parts of the country are upping their production 1.7 to 2 times as against the same period of the previous month.

The February 8 Cement Factory and the Haeju Cement Factory, large and modern centres of building-materials industry, completed the introduction of industrial television and remote control into the operation of kilns and other main production processes.

The workers of the Chongjin Chemical Fibre Mill in the northern region of the country modernized over 20 production processes, thus completely eliminating harmful labour.

The technical revolution has been successfully pushed ahead in the countryside, too, through the movement for winning the red flag of the three revolutions.

The agricultural working people in Chongsan-ri who raised the first torch of this movement in the domain of rural economy completed the comprehensive mechanization of agriculture and are using agricultural chemicals to kill weeds and blights and insect pests. They are now doing work easily, each tending 5 hectares of paddy field or 10 hectares of non-paddy field.

The farm has now 120 tractors and lorries and more than 1,000 trailing farm machines of 43 kinds.

The number of tractors per 100 hectares of cultivated land will reach 10 to 12 in the near future in our country. Besides, many farm machine will be supplied to the countryside.

Cultural

New culture of the working class is being created and the intellectualization of the whole society promoted with success in the grand march of the movement for winning the red flag of the three revolutions.

Hundreds of workers of the Pyongyang Textile Mills are studying at the factory college and higher technical school.

At Chongsan-*ri* over 300 agricultural working people and managerial workers are receiving higher education, embraced in the education system of studying while on the job.

Our country has a big contingent of intellectuals one million strong.

The militant slogan "Let Us Meet the Requirements of Juche in Ideology, Technique and Culture!" is seen in all places where the movement for winning the red flag of the three revolutions is going on. (KCNA)

(Subtitles are ours.....Ed.)

Construction of the Youth Chemical Complex is in the completion stage.

Fast Changing Socialist Korea

Great upsurge and great innovation—this is the reality of Chollima Korea today.

The construction of modern edifices is progressing apace to demonstrate the might of heroic Korea.

A spectacular scene of creation is presented at the construction site of the Sunchon Cement Factory which is rising as a leading centre of the country's building materials industry.

At the construction site of the Youth Chemical Complex, the construction tempo also is being doubled by the builders in the construction of equipment of the combined a nylon yarn system and in the assembling of equipment and pipes for the naphtha and high-pressure ethylene system.

The constructors of the Chongchongang Thermal Power Plant are effecting innovation day by day with a goal to finish the construction of No. 1 generator before October 10.

Miracles are being performed in the urban construction along with industrial construction.

The builders of Namchongjin in the northern region are heightening the construction tempo two times, three times.

Thanks to the vigorous endeavours of the constructors, modern 7-storied, 15-storied flats have sprung up one after another in less than half a year to add to the magnificence and beauty of the city.

A forest of great monumental edifices are rising in all parts of Chollima Korea under the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung.

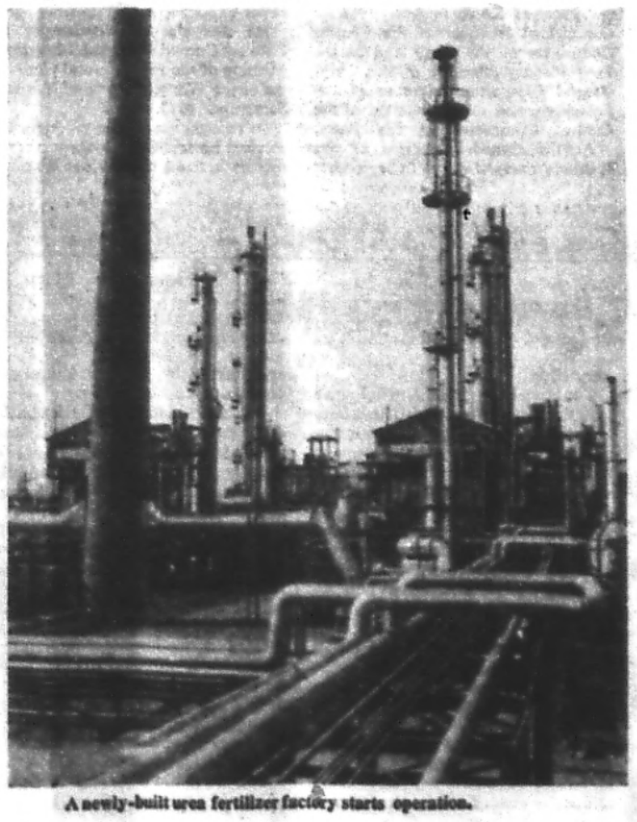
During the period of the fulfilment of the Six-Year Plan 1,055 modern factories and a great number of workshops were built and commissioned in the domain of industry in the DPRK.

Among them are the second-stage-setups of the Pukchang Thermal Power Plant, the large-size blast furnace, continuous sintering furnaces and Nos. 3 and 4 coking batteries of the Kim Chaek Iron Works, phosphorous fertilizer factories with a total capacity of one million tons, the Kumsong Tractor Plant, the Sariwon Textile Mill, the September Textile Mill, 10 large freezing factories and cornstarch factories.

This period also witnessed the construction of the magnificent modern Pipa Street, Sangwon Street and Rakwon Street, the Korean Revolution Museum, the Memorial of the Victory in the Fatherland Liberation War, No. 2 building of Kim Il Sung University, the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium, the People's Palace of Culture, the February 8 House of Culture, the Pyongyang Metro and many other monumental edifices in Pyongyang.

Besides, Sariwon, Kaesong, Nampo, Huichon, Hamhung, Sinuiju, Wonsan, Anju and other local cities were rebuilt into more beautiful modern cities.

(KCNA)



A newly-built urea fertilizer factory starts operation.

There Is No Such Country In World as Juche Korea

—Philippine Crewman Says—

There is no such country in the world as Juche Korea led by the great leader President Kim Il Sung where the life of human being is valued most.

So said Pacifico F. Fajardo, Philippine crewman of the Greek ship "Evdokia," before leaving our country after recovering his health from a heavy injury he got while working in the ship anchoring at the Hungnam port in February this year.

The "Evdokia," Greek flag, entered the Hungnam port on February 22, 1976.

Pacifico F. Fajardo, a plain crewman of the ship, was caught by a nylon rope to be heavily injured on his leg while working on deck.

Noting that he was hospitalized in the Chollima Hospital attached to the Hamhung Medical College and recovered his health thanks to the sincere treatment given by the medical workers of our country, he said: They looked after me with a kindred feeling. On what is their spiritual world based?

He reverentially quoted the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung as teaching:

"Attaching the greatest importance to people in every respect and serving them—This is precisely the requirement of the Juche idea."

He said:

The great Juche idea which attaches greatest importance to people in the world has been successfully embodied in all the fields of Korea.

Reading immortal classic works of great President Kim Il Sung I felt heartily that the speed of remarkable development in Korea, the country of Juche, great miracles being performed at every hour and lofty ideas of the Koreans full of warm love towards the human being are created and manifested by the great Juche idea of President Kim Il Sung.

Indeed, the Korean people who are the master of the state under the bright sunshine of the Juche idea of great President Kim Il Sung are the happiest people over the world. For that reason, the Korean people hold President Kim Il Sung in high esteem and respect him as the fatherly leader.

President Kim Il Sung who created the immortal Juche idea and is indicating the road like a light house is not only the great leader of the Korean people but the outstanding leader in the van of world revolution.

Giving his impressions of Mangyongdae, the cradleland of revolution, he said:

Mangyongdae, the heart of Juche Korea, is the cradle of revolution and school.

Mangyongdae stirs up the hearts of hundreds of millions of people.

I do not know such a leader as great President Kim Il Sung, born in a patriotic family which was ornamented with brilliant history of revolutionary struggle and recorded heroic relics of history.

Therefore, world revolutionary peoples hold President Kim Il Sung as a red sun of mankind shining on the globe, their great leader, and give high praise to him. The period during which I received medical treatment under the grateful bosom of respected President Kim Il Sung, was not long but I learnt and experienced a valuable thing which can not be bartered for anything.

Thanks to the warm solicitude of the great leader President Kim Il Sung my wounded leg recovered and I can walk now again.

Indeed, respected President Kim Il Sung is a preserver of my life who gave me action of revival.

I am standing in front of the portrait of great President Kim Il Sung and straighten my dress singing "Song of General Kim Il Sung" with sincere heart.

Singing the great revolutionary paean, I will be with the Korean people marching towards the bright future and for the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea under the wise leadership of President Kim Il Sung. Bearing deep the revolutionary ideas of outstanding and great President Kim Il Sung in my mind, I will dedicate my all to its shining victory as a believer of Kimilsungism.

I sincerely wish great President Kim Il Sung who is leading the Korean and world revolution will enjoy a long life and good health.

(KCNA)

DPRK Booters Oppose Israel Participation

We strongly hold that the International Football Federation should direct serious attention to the desire of the Asian people and football circles and take a proper step not to let the Israeli football team participate in the Group B Asian regional eliminations, respecting the decision of the Asian Football Federation.

So declared the Football Association of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in a statement made public on September 19 in connection with an artificial obstacle created in organizing matches because of the inclusion of the unqualified Israeli team in the Group B Asian regional eliminations of the 11th World Football Championships to be held in Argentina in 1978.

We consider that this will contribute to successfully holding the World Football Championships and soundly developing world football in conformity with the desire of the world football lovers, the statement pointed out.

Referring to the preparations which are being made in the world football arena for the regional eliminations of the 11th World Football Championships, the statement said that our football team has made preparations to participate in the championships.

Noting that the Israeli team which is not qualified to participate in the Asian regional eliminations is included in Group B in the program sent by the organisers of the World Football Championships, the statement said:

As is known to the world, the general meeting of the Asian Football Federation held in Teheran in 1974 decided not to let Israel participate in all events organised by it.

Further, the general meeting of the Asian Football Federation held in August this year decided to expel Israel from it.

This step, reflecting the unanimous desire of the Asian people and the football lovers, is a just one for the sound development of the Asian Football Federation.

This notwithstanding, the Israeli football team which is not qualified in every respect is included in the Group B Asian regional eliminations of the World Football Championships. This is intolerable.

The statement expressed the conviction that the just assertion of the Football Association of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea would enjoy the unanimous support of all the peace-loving people and football lovers of the world.

(KCNA)

Fascist Rule Must Give Way to Democracy

As long as the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique's "revitalised" fascist dictatorship exists, neither human dignity and rights, democracy in south Korea nor the independent and peaceful reunification of the country is thinkable.

The Pak Jung Hi clique of traitors have trumped up or retrogressively revised more than 5,000 evil laws and increased the fascist repressive forces on an extensive scale since they usurped the puppet regime under the wirepulling of the U.S. imperialists.

The Pak Jung Hi puppet bandits who have turned the whole of the southern land into a dreadful military prison are bestially suppressing the just patriotic struggle of the south Korean people for the democratisation of society, the reunification of the country and the right to existence by invoking numerous murderous laws and mobilizing the fascist repressive forces.

The Pak Jung Hi puppet clique once again fully revealed their dirty true color as the hideous fascist hangmen and ferocious military gangsters devoid of any conscience or reason through the recent hasty verdict trial of Kim Dae Jung and 17 others who published "the declaration for democracy and national salvation".

The Pak Jung Hi puppet clique, resorting only to "prison rule" and "murderous policy" against the country and the nation, are throwing student youths calling for campus freedom into prison on charges of being "seditious elements," imposing penalties upon democratic figures demanding peaceful reunification, accusing them of "agitating for a rebellion" and handcuffing believers advocating freedom of religion, charging that their "act benefits the enemy." Indeed, they are the most vicious fascists and butchers of the nation without an equal in the world.

Having made no people but "Chongwadae" clan safe from imprisonment or execution on the gallows, the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique are maintaining their treacherous power and living in luxury on the graves of the people who fell under the bayonets of fascism.

It is by no means fortuitous that even an American churchman called the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique's fascist terror rule a "showcase of dark policy" and south Korea where the hangmen are lording it over a "land of cannibals".

How can the progress of society and justice be realised and the urgent demand of the people satisfied under the circumstances where the political freedom and democratic rights of the people are ruthlessly trampled underfoot and the hangmen's fascist repression is rampant?

The democratisation of south Korean society can be realised only by overthrowing the Pak Jung Hi gang of murderers, a group of ferocious and hideous hangmen, and sweeping away the present military fascist ruling system.

At this critical moment when they will be suffocated to death under the harsh fascist repression or riseup in struggle to win freedom and democracy and open the road of national reunification, the south Korean workers, peasants, student youths, intellectuals and conscientious believers and all other people and patriotic figures should rise up more vigorously in the struggle for crushing the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique's military fascist dictatorship and realising the democratisation of south Korean society under the uplifted banner of anti-fascism and democracy.

They should check and smash at every step the fascist suppression and rampage of the Pak Jung Hi clique, sweep away the present military fascist regime, the most vicious executor of the colonial military fascist rule and the group of most reactionary agents-terrorists and thus discharge the lofty mission you assume before the times and the nation.

Australian TV Program on Nature of S. Korea

ABC, an Australian TV station, on July 20 broadcasted a program on the nature of south Korea. Lateline is the title of the program. The attendants of this discussion program are: Richard Falk, professor at the Center of International Studies at Princeton University in U.S. ; Dick Wooton, Secretary for Justice and Development within the Board of Ecumenical Mission of the Presbyterian Church in Victoria in Australia; John Nakajima, General Secretary of the Japan National Council of Churches; and MarkAarons, moderator. Follow excerpts of the transcription.

Good evening; this is Mark Aarons with Lateline, and due to the uncertainties surrounding the ban by telecommunications workers on landlines and circuits, tonight we are bringing you a discussion on the nature of south Korea which we first broadcast some three weeks ago. The ban has definitely been lifted now and for the rest of the week we will be back to normal programs.

The repression of the democratic opposition by the regime of President Pak Jung Hi in south Korea was highlighted by a recent Amnesty International report which revealed the widespread use of torture on political and religious prisoners.

In this discussion Professor Richard Falk, John Nakajima and the Reverend Dick Wootton, examine the economic and political forces which compel President Pak to take increasingly severe measures against even the mildest opposition.

Dick is the secretary for Justice and Development within the Board of Ecumenical Mission of the Presbyterian Church in Victoria and was in our Melbourne studio.

John is the general secretary of the Japan National Council of Churches and was in our Tokyo studio.

Richard is at the Centre of International Studies at Princeton University and was in the studio of WPRB in Princeton, New Jersey.

* * *

KCIA Activities

AARONS:

Alright, now if we could turn to the actual political nature of the Pak regime; in a recent set of hearings in the United States, the Korean CIA has been singled out for some rather trenchant criticism, not only about the nature of its activities inside Korea and the way that it controls the population, but also for its activities abroad. John Nakajima, I understand that the Korean CIA is particularly active in Japan. What evidence is there of Korean CIA activity in Japan against the Korean or indeed Japanese population?

NAKAJIMA:

Of course there is no concrete evidence as such which we can figure out, but in all segments of Japanese society the power of the Korean CIA is noted. For instance, a couple of months ago, I was asked by one of the TV stations to speak about the noted Catholic poet Kim Ji Ha and I spoke about him for seven minutes and was cut off, and they stopped telecasting this program. In protest I went to see the manager of this company but he said there was no concrete outside pressure as such. But I can note that in general terms both the manager of the company and the politicians of our country are all in one camp. In order to protect the economic interest of our country they have to co-operate with the KCIA so that they can retain their influential power in Korea. Therefore that kind of thing is happening all the time here in Japan and of course several Japanese as well as Koreans are always questioned and all the things are reported on their activities.

AARONS:

It has been said that the Korean CIA, although named after the American CIA, functions completely differently: even given some of the skullduggery that the American CIA has got up to, can you explain the way in which the CIA forms the political nature of the Korean regime?

FALK:

Well I think the most important thing to realize is that the American CIA is supposed to operate only externally to the United States and that there is a division in responsibility between the CIA, which is supposed to be the intelligence gathering covert operations arm of the government which operates abroad, and the FBI which is the domestic police organization which investigates security issues internally. Obviously two organisations can do the same kind of thing that one can but the Korean CIA combines both those roles, so it is very, very active as a secret police instrumentality; and then it performs all the roles associated with the American CIA, that is engaging in covert activity in foreign societies. It abducted Kim Dae Jung, it has abducted Korean students who were active in protests against the Pak regime in European countries and in the United States, and has violated the sovereignty of many societies where it has found Koreans particularly doing things that were causing displeasure or discomfort to the Pak regime.

AARONS:

One of the interesting sidelights to the subcommittee hearing in America on the activities of the Korean CIA, I think, was the widespread activity of the Korean CIA actually in the United States. Have you got any information on that, Richard?

FALK:

Well I think, again, it is hard to get very concrete information aside from the fairly well substantiated abductions of the Korean students. It is also fairly widely reported that the Reverend Moon Unification Church activities are underwritten by the Korean CIA and at least have very close connections with the leadership in Seoul. And there is a general effort which is quite widely understood by the Korean CIA to do everything in its power to sustain the official line of support for the south Korean administration despite mounting congressional and popular opposition to the course of American policy over the last decade or so.

AARONS:

Now if I could come in there and ask a question of Dick Wootton. Although it doesn't appear as though we have a large Korean population here in Australia, there does seem to be some evidence of south Korean activity here. Do you have anything to say about that?

WOOTTON:

Well it is extremely difficult in this country too, as Richard Falk has said, to pinpoint the activities of the Korean CIA. The first thing I would like to say about the Korean CIA is that it is a very much feared organisation. It has everybody frightened who are Korean people in this country and that fear is well earned. It is interesting in the various activities in the U.S. of their research into the hearings they had last year and are presently running, they reveal a lot about the activities of the Korean CIA and how particularly Bureaus Nos. 3, 5, and 6 operate. Now the strange thing of course for Australians is that they really have little idea of how the power of this organisation can work to brutalize people. Very often in our own press we have denials that there is any torture at all, and Kim Jong Pil and others have been in Newsweek and other magazines saying that there was no torture in 1974 and 1975. The truth of the matter is that even now when we are talking here a number of ministers have been arrested in Soeul and they are almost certainly being tortured. Because we have received information about this, we know that from the Amnesty report last year that a great number of people were brutally tortured, some tortured to death by the Korean CIA. The Amnesty organisation went to Korea and very carefully documented this torture.

What is contained in the Amnesty report is some of the most horrific torture that the world has ever seen. Now all this by a government that is supposed to be respectable. And what the Australian government and everybody else has to know is that while we are trading and working with the Korean government we are working with a government which had people in cells and they are systematically bashing them. And this is a very urgent question for us to face as Australian people. Now what happens with Japanese and what happens with Americans is their business, but for Australians we have to be very conscious of the sheer brutality that is going on in Korea now.

Strategic Value of S. Korea

AARONS:

I would like to change the direction of the discussion. One of the most important considerations, it seems to me, about south Korea, is the link between the United States and south Korea. Traditionally, I think, since the Second World War, south Korea has been a bulwark of the cold war and then detente policies of the United States government. What have been the strategic considerations involved in south Korea that have made the United States support such a repressive regime?

FALK:

I think the first thing is to underscore what Dick Wootton just said, and I think is so important, is that any country that prides itself on a minimum respect for human rights has no business dealing on a friendly basis or on a normal basis with the kind of regime that is engaged in the documented terror of its own population as the Seoul regime has in south Korea. And I think that kind of assertion which is not really subject to serious doubt any longer has to underlie any discussion of the strategic relationship. I think, having said that, one has to realize that south Korea for many decades has been the victim of geo-politics or the manoeuverings of the great powers. As early as 1905 Japan was given the right to establish its colonial control over south Korea in exchange for American control of the Philippinnes. That was part of an arrangement that was reached during the Presidency of Theodore Roosevelt. And therefore Korea has for a very long time been viewed by the great powers as a pawn in their manoeuverings whose wellbeing would be sacrificed in order to reach some degree of satisfaction of their ambitions.

And I think that is how one has to understand the division of the country that occurred as a consequence of World War II. It was really again bargaining away the wellbeing of the Korean people to satisfy the conflicting ambitions of the Soviet Union and the United States.

Therefore what makes Korea strategic is the same thing that made Vietnam strategic for so long. That the leaders of this most powerful of countries have declared a commitment to sustain the status quo that exists in south Korea, and having made that commitment their credibility as a great power is at stake. I don't think it is strategic in any sense beyond that, I mean there are no great resources at stake in south Korea, there is nothing that would affect American security; there are economic interests at stake and Japan has a certain strategic interest in the sense that it has traditionally wanted a sympathetic government in control of the Korean Peninsula. But again Japan's security is not really in danger, there is a great expanse of water between Korea and Japan. And mainly it is a traditional desire by the Japanese, I think, to control the immediate geographical region around them and protect their economic interests which are considerable in south Korea.

But I think that one can't make an objective argument that there are some vital strategic interests at stake. It is mainly a matter that Korea has become a symbolic commitment by the United States over the years. A war was fought there and it is a test of will and credibility with respect to the communist world. And therefore the Korean society, the people of Korea are placed in this almost permanent situation of jeopardy in order to play out a role which has nothing to do with their wellbeing but is concerned with the geo-political rivalry of the United States and the western world with the leadership of the communist world.

Deployment of Nuclear Weapons

AARONS:

If I could just interrupt you there Richard. One of the aspects that then follows on from that is the deployment of nuclear weapons in south Korea which I think is a fairly recent phenomenon, and I think a rather large number. Now given the strategic value of south Korea as you have outlined it is very, very minimal, what is behind the deployment of nuclear weapons in south Korea?

FALK:

Well it is interesting about the nuclear vapons. It is not so much that they have been deployed recently, I think they have actually been there for a long time, but that their deployment has been made public is the change in policy, and intended, I believe, to serve as an indication that the United States after Vietnam is not prepared to risk defeat in an Asian war or risk grave losses of American lives, but is prepared to use nuclear weapons to uphold its commitments.

Now there has been some backing away from the original statement made by Schlesinger a couple of years ago—really I guess about a year ago. But I think that there has been no indication that the nuclear weapons would be withdrawn from south Korea, and they are deployed in such a way that one could easily imagine them being used if a war was to break out. But I think what it represents really is an attempt to apply the lessons that the Pentagon and the military establishment felt they learnt from the Vietnam defeat, and to normalize the role of nuclear weapons in conflicts involving non-nuclear third world states. And I think for that reason it is a very alarming threat that is sure to deepen problems of proliferation and give other countries an incentive to acquire nuclear weapons of their own.

AARONS:

John, if I could bring you in from Tokyo? The stratgic considerations for Japan in an economic sense and with the raising of the whole nuclear question so sharply in Japan itself, what is the attitude of the Japanese government and people towards the deployment of nuclear weapons in Korea and what do you think the military is up to in south Korea?

NAKAJIMA:

Our government recently here ratified this Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, so seemingly our government cannot take the position of approving any of the nuclear weapons, not only within our own country but other neighbouring countries. Even the Japanese Government is showing certain concern seemingly, but as a matter of fact the military presence in Korea, both U.S. and Korean military, is of course, important, for us to maintain our economic interest there, to keep order. Actually our government never says anything about how the Pak regime should control their own military policy. Our government always supports by giving economic aid, loans, etc., and that, of course, makes President Pak confident in his own manoeuvering of the people of Korea.

AARONS:

Dick, one of the scenarios I have seen painted recently has been that Pak in the south will launch a pre-emptive strike against the north in order to unite the people against the communist north and take away attention that is currently being focussed on his repressive government on his economic policies in a sort of spiritual drive against Kim Dae Jung. Now given that north and south swap insults and threats of war etc. do you see this as being a valid scenario, and what are the implications therefore of atomic weapons under such a scenario?

WOOTTON:

Well I think it is always a useful ploy, and certainly Korea for the last 15 years has used the threat of communist invasion as something that ought to cause everybody to toe the line. And I think that is a very real problem. Everybody has their information from various sources, but last year when I was in Seoul both government leaders and even American embassy people were telling me that they really thought that the threat of war from the north was not really there. I am sure the Korean government is a little shaky following Vietnam but whether they are going to invade the north would just be a fairly stupid situation because it is one of the most heavily armed 85 thousand square miles on earth. From a person who really loves Korean people one could see nothing very fruitful occurring from such an attack, or such a war. I get quite agitated from the fact that you raised the question because I think that the way forward for Korea, either in the north or the south, is not to be involved in a war and I would hope that everybody would use their influence to avoid such a situation.

U.S. Post-Vietnam Policies

AARONS:

Richard, could I come back to a point that you were making earlier about the Pentagon's learning of the lesson of South Vietnam or the defeat in South Vietnam. Now in the post-Vietnam era has there been noticeable change of Pentagon and American attitudes towards south Korea?

FALK:

I think there has been in the sense that having suffered a defeat in Vietnam it was very important to reaffirm other kinds of similar commitments elsewhere. Also it was important to try to use the kind of instruments of American power that had not been relied upon in Indochina, and I think that is what has given a renewed emphasis to nuclear weapons. Not only in south Korea, but generally in American strategic thinking, in American foreign policy, there is a whole new set of weapon systems coming into being that have first use capabilities. I think that there is a powerful current and an alarming current of very important thinking in American Government circles that is re-emphasizing nuclear weapons, not as weapons of last resort, but as instruments to sustain the American economic and political position of world leadership in a period of increasing challenge especially from the third world, but also from other parts of the world. And in a period where it is clear that the American people have lost their appetite for the kind of prolonged warfare that Indochina involved and in which the American military effort proved to be such a failure. So I think that south Korea has to be understood as part of this larger global reassessment that has occurred after Vietnam.

But it represents a very important test case because the United States has already fought in a long war in Korea that cost millions of lives. The best estimate that I have seen was that four million people perished in the Korean War between 1950 and 1953. Therefore there is a kind of sense that the American role as a power that exercises influence in all regions of the world is very much at stake in Korea because there is a divided country, an unpopular government such as existed in South Vietnam, and the whole psychological capacity of the United States to sustain its position really would be severely undermined, these leaders feel, I think, if there was any kind of loss of control over the situation in Korea.

AARONS:

Richard, could I then ask you to put forward your view, if you were in charge of American policy, what attitude you would be adopting, what policies you would be applying in south Korea or towards south Korea?

FALK:

Well that is the grand question which is not easy to answer at a distance. I do think that some things are very obvious. I think the first thing is that nuclear weapons should be withdrawn immediately from Korean territory, and indeed a pledge should be made that the United States should never use nuclear weapons against any non-nuclear power, and indeed against any power that couldn't use them against it.

Secondly I think that the United States should adopt the position of withholding any kind of economic or military support from any government, and particularly in this case the south Korean government, that doesn't respect the minimal human rights of its own people.

Thirdly I think an effort should be made to normalize relations with north Korea and to see whether a negotiated settlement can be brought about that affects the entire Korean Peninsula. That would involve undoubtedly bringing China, Japan and the Soviet Union into the diplomatic process; but I think that there is considerable indication that China and the Soviet Union would welcome a defusing of the Korean situation, and I think there are real opportunities for an initiative that would overcome the kind of permanent war status that the two Korean societies have placed themselves on.

So I think there are these series of things that could be done, and there are some indications that Jimmy Carter, who will be, of course, the American Democratic Party candidate, has a Korean position which does go some of the way toward the kind of approach that I have been urging.

Future for Democracy

AARONS:

One last question to you, Dick Wootton, and that is, given the grim picture that has been outlined this evening about the situation in south Korea, what do you think the future for democracy or some liberalization in south Korea is?

WOOTTON:

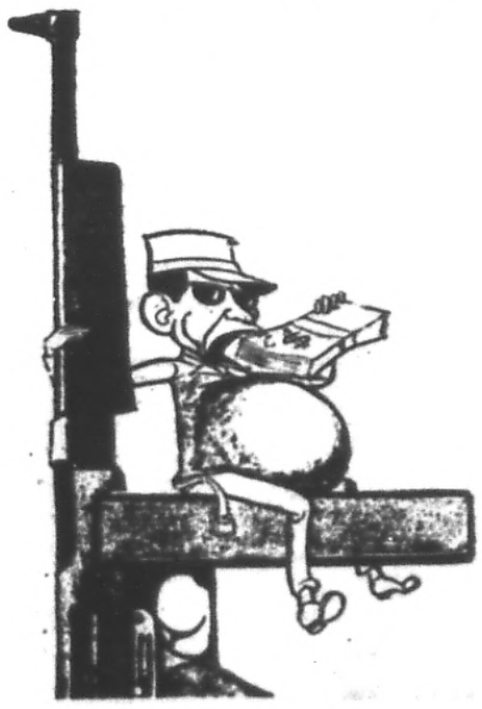
I think the future can be good. I would like to commend what Richard Falk has said. I think that anything that is done to lessen tension, to try and cut back on some of the great expenditures on armaments and so on, would somehow restore some human rights to the place and would all be good. I believe if these things are done progressively Korea can emerge from the sort of tense position it is in now. After all, the people can work hard; they are some of the great people of the world. They have gone through a lot and I think as the government begins to follow a different economic policy; not so much wanting development now and everybody has got to wait, wait, wait for it. But gradually if a policy of development is followed that will encourage a more equal distribution of income with some more welfare services and better housing and all those things, Korea can become a very great united nation. I think that that is the hope and I think that my faith would be in the people, that they would achieve it.

The church of course plays a very real part in this. While I have been here saying some things about some church leaders that are in goal—the Korean church is one of the most hopeful churches in the world. It is building churches at a frightening rate. I think that all these things acting together will bring about some of the changes in Korea that we all wish for.

AARONS:

We will have to leave it there. Thank you very much John Nakajima in Tokyo, Dick Wootton in Melbourne, and Professor Richard Falk in Princeton, New Jersey.

(Headlines are ours.—Ed.)



U.S. Senator McGovern Demands Withdrawal of U.S. Troops from S.Korea

Voices condemning the U.S. imperialists' occupation of south Korea and war provocation manoeuvres and the brutalities of the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique are frequently ringing out of the U.S. Congress and public circles today when it is an irresistible trend of the times to denounce the U.S. imperialists' occupation of south Korea and demand the withdrawal of the U.S. imperialist aggression troops from south Korea.

According to a report from Washington, in a speech prepared for delivery in the U.S. Senate on September 15, Senator McGovern "asked for direct discussions with north Korean officials to avoid another Korean war."

He said:

"We are allied in south Korea with a disreputable tyrant, Pak Jung Hi. He has been transforming south Korea into a model of totalitarian rule that is not worth risking U.S. involvement in another Korean war."

Referring to the Panmunjom incident, he said: "The incident and its aftermath proved the forces that were sent to Korea a generation ago as a trip wire could trip this generation into another wrong war in another wrong place at another wrong time." "It was primarily a matter of good luck another Korean war did not erupt," he added.

He said: "The main effect of U.S. troops in south Korea is to encourage an adventurous attitude by Pak Jung Hi and to stand as irrefutable physical evidence of our involvement with his repressive regime.

"We should begin a phased withdrawal of our forces from south Korea ... as quickly as that can be accomplished."

He stressed "the United States should have a willingness to have continuing discussions with north Korean officials."

He called for the removal of all tactical nuclear weapons from south Korea and condemned the repression by Pak Jung Hi puppet clique.

He went on:

"Pak Jung Hi stopped giving the impression that his 'regime' is a 'democratic regime' and threatens the students with death sentence in case of their political demonstration or of their absence in lectures without prior permission.

"Former south Korean 'president' Yun Bo Son and former 'presidential' candidate Kim Dae Jung, as we all recognise truly, were sentenced to long prison terms on August 28 for they said openly that the Pak 'regime' was rotten and repressive.

"In short, the Pak 'regime' keeps the south Korean people under savage dictatorship."

Cohen, professor of U.S. Harvard University, in his article contributed to the U.S. newspaper "Los Angeles Times" on September 12, said that the recent events in Korea "have dramatized both horns of America's dilemma about Korea."

The murderous trial by the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique of 18 publishers of "the declaration for democracy and national salvation," he noted, "reminds us how wrongly the huge amount of U.S. military and economic aid to south Korea is wasted by Pak Jung Hi bent on forcing his repressive dictatorship."

Pointing out that the U.S. Government should "express its readiness to negotiate" with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea about "the stage-by-stage and gradual withdrawal" of the U.S. imperialist aggression troops from south Korea, he said:

"The president should announce the immediate withdrawal of all nuclear weapons from south Korea and the first stage of the gradual reduction of U.S. ground forces there.

"He should also indicate American readiness to eliminate great-power intervention in Korean affairs.

"The president should state in the strongest terms that the U.S. Government condemns the repressive policies of the Pak 'regime.'

"The president should announce our intention to attempt to open up official and unofficial contact with Pyongyang in the hope of establishing the communication required to begin negotiating the withdrawal of American forces and other measures and agreements."

He gave his positive appraisal of the "willingness" expressed by the DPRK "to revise regulation of the Joint Security Area at Panmunjom."

Kim Dae Jung Seriously Ill : Hanmintong

The Japan headquarters of the "National Congress for the Restoration of Democracy in South Korea and the Promotion of Unification" ("Hanmintong") held a press conference on September 16 and issued a statement in connection with the fact that the illness of democratic figure Kim Dae Jung, one of those involved in the issuance of "the declaration for democracy and national salvation" took a turn for the worse in Seoul prison and his life is in danger.

The statement noted that the illness of Kim Dae Jung became serious gravely imperilling his life and the worst is expected if he is left alone.

Facts show that the Pak Jung Hi fascist clique are leaving no stone unturned to kill Kim Dae Jung, the statement said.

Declaring that the Japanese Government is responsible for the imprisonment of Kim Dae Jung, the statement stressed: "The Japanese Government must make public even now the truth of the Kim Dae Jung abduction case and take positive measures for the reinstatement of Kim Dae Jung to his former status. It must immediately stop economic aid to the Pak Jung Hi regime and send a group of doctors at once to Kim Dae Jung from a moral sense of responsibility."

The statement made the following appeal to the world people:

1) To direct greater attention to the destiny of all the patriotic personages including the publishers of "the declaration for democracy and national salvation" who are imprisoned in south Korea, especially of Kim Dae Jung whose life is in danger and strongly demand the Pak Jung Hi "regime" release them.

2) To lift up voices in all parts of the world in denunciation of the Pak Jung Hi "regime" and its accomplices.

3) To arouse public opinion to make the countries which keep diplomatic relations with the Pak Jung Hi "regime" sever all relations, political, diplomatic, military, economic, trade and cultural, with it and demand its realization.

Kim Jong Chung, director of the international department of the Japan headquarters of "Hanmintong," answered questions raised by reporters at the press conference.

He quoted the wife of Kim Dae Jung in Seoul as saying that her husband, "unable to walk out, crawled to her when she went to meet him" and bitterly denounced the criminal attempt of the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique to kill Kim Dae Jung in the form of "natural death."

No Justification Found for U.S. Presence in S. Korea

The U.S. imperialists now more recklessly attempt to justify their occupation of south Korea by their troops, availing themselves of the Panmunjom incident. With nothing, can it be justified.

The People's Korea will expose its aggressive and illegal nature from this issue in two installments.

The policy of aggression on Korea pursued by the U.S. imperialists with wild designs from more than one hundred years ago became pronounced after the Second World War and is becoming more undisguised at present.

The keynote of the U.S. imperialists' policy of Korean aggression after the Second World War was to turn south Korea into a colony and a military strategic base in view of the geographical position of Korea and, with it as a stepping-stone, occupy the whole of Korea and, furthermore, use it as the advance base of aggression on the continent for world supremacy.

The U.S. imperialists were aware that they could not stamp out the daily growing socialist forces and national liberation forces in Asia without ruling Korea nor could they realize their wild desire for world supremacy, as the Korean situation was turning in favour of democracy and socialism after the liberation.

So they attached great military and strategic importance to south Korea from where they would deal a blow to any part of Northeast Asia for its geographical position.

After an emergency meeting for Asian aggression with the commander of the Seventh Fleet, the commander of the Pacific fleet and others in Tokyo on December 7, 1945, MacArthur said that "south Korea must be used as a base of the Asian Continent, an outpost for 'defence' of Japan" and in September last year ex-U.S. Defence Secretary Schlesinger cloaked at a press conference after his return to the United States from his south Korea and Japan trip that the U.S. troops' presence in south Korea "must continue indefinitely" out of the geopolitical consideration for that area.

For this aggressive purpose, the U.S. imperialists occupied south Korea allegedly to settle "pending postwar issues" and set about carrying into practice their aggressive plan against Korea in real earnest to realize their century-old wild ambition.

From the very day they set foot in south Korea, the U.S. imperialists have invariably sought the vicious aim of turning south Korea into their colony and, furthermore, into a military base and, with it as a springboard, invading the whole of Korea and Asia. To this end, the beasts have kept south Korea under their military occupation and pursued a colonial enslavement policy.

After sustaining a shameful defeat in their war of aggression in Vietnam and Cambodia in April last year, the U.S. imperialists have directed the spearhead of the "Asian strategy" to Northeast Asia, attached greater military and strategic importance to south Korea, the only and last aggressive base on the Asian Continent, and clung tighter to the policy of prolonged occupation to keep hold on south Korea as the military base for aggression on the Asian Continent.

Today the U.S. imperialists' policy of Asian aggression as a whole is actually undergoing a serious crisis and a great confusion.

At a time when the U.S. imperialists are sustaining one irretrievable defeat after another in Asia, it will mean a total bankruptcy of their policy of Asian aggression, if they are kicked out of south Korea.

This is why the U.S. imperialists are trying to perpetuate their rule over south Korea and to keep a tight hold on south Korea as an arsenal and "bridgehead" for Asian aggression and, using it as a base, provoke a new war of aggression against the Korean people and the Asian revolutionary forces.

The occupation of south Korea by the U.S. forces is not only an unpardonable aggressive act but also an illegal and untenable act, to all intents and purposes.

The respected and beloved leader President Kim Il Sung has taught: **"There is neither reason nor condition for the U.S. troops to stay on in south Korea."**

The occupation is, above all, a violation of an international accord. The U.S. troops were let to land in south Korea after the Second World War on the mission of disarming the defeated Japanese army in the area south of the 38th Parallel and helping in the independence of Korea in accordance with the international accord reached at the Summit Talks of the Allied Forces held during the war. The U.S. imperialists, however, seized upon this chance to occupy south Korea and pursue a colonial enslavement policy.

It is a crude violation of the publicly recognized principles of the UN Charter and international law providing for respect of sovereignty and noninterference in others' internal affairs.

Through this military occupation and the puppet regime, the U.S. imperialists lord it over south Korea as the actual ruler, holding all powers, political, military, economic and cultural, and freely trample underfoot the national sovereignty and interfere in the internal affairs of Korea and commit every manner of aggressive crimes.

This means that the U.S. occupation of south Korea is an intolerable and the gravest infringement upon the sovereignty of the Korean people and its wanton violation and entirely runs counter to the publicly recognized principles of the UN Charter and international law.

This occupation also contravenes the Korean Armistice Agreement envisaging the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Korea.

The U.S. imperialists rigged up the aggressive "south Korea-U.S. mutual defence treaty" which "legalizes" the permanent occupation of south Korea by the U.S. forces, totally violating the spirit of Paragraph 60, Article 4 of the Armistice Agreement envisaging the withdrawal of the foreign troops. The U.S. imperialists also wantonly violated the provision of the Armistice Agreement on the convocation of a political conference of a higher level and turned down all the fair and aboveboard proposals for national reunification put forward by the DPRK delegate at the Geneva Conference for the peaceful settlement of the Korean question held in 1954, thus breaking up the conference.

The occupation runs counter to the north-south joint statement whose keynote is the three principles—independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity.

The three principles of national reunification laid down in the north-south joint statement are internationally recognized principles for the solution of the Korean question which were also unanimously approved at the 28th UN General Assembly. The United States, therefore, can not evade its obligation to observe them.

This notwithstanding, the U.S. imperialists have brought the north-south dialogue to a rupture as we see today and screwed up the tension in Korea to the highest pitch by instigating the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique to north-south confrontation and split, while holding on in south Korea even after the announcement of the north-south joint statement. This is an intolerable challenge to the Korean people who are struggling to carry the north-south joint statement to realization.

The U.S. occupation of south Korea is a gross violation of the resolution of the 30th UN General Assembly demanding the withdrawal of all foreign troops from south Korea.

(To be continued)

Truth of Panmunjom Incident

Contribution by English Journalist, Ian McDonald

(1)

From the 18th of August until around September 5 tension rapidly built up where the U.S.-South Korean forces confront the Democratic People's Republic of Korea; and not only there but in all the surrounding waters and throughout the armed forces of both south and north, which were placed on full alert.

We have often been warned that some such incident as happened on the 18th could spark nuclear war, though not necessarily because the USA wants it. Neither China nor the USSR could be expected to sit by and see the DPRK destroyed with nuclear weapons, as has been threatened by Schlesinger, Ford and Kissinger, and by General Hollingsworth with his threat of a nine-day nuclear war of total destruction.

Then too, the DPRK itself is not entirely defenseless. We remember that the strength of the DPRK and its capacity to defend itself were amply demonstrated in the Korean War of 1950-53, and it is infinitely stronger now than then. But, of course, the US would not be expected to consider any Asian state, big or small, able to stand up to US military might. Or did this fallacy really die in Vietnam?

On the American scene, the people of the U.S. could not be expected to back the Government in another Asian adventure following the Vietnam debacle, and with Carter in the offing challenging Ford this year with some new ideas on how to deal with the Korean question—No! War would be unthinkable, at least by design.

Then why did the tree-felling incident and its aftermath take place just now? That is the 64 dollar question. We must try to answer it.

The 31st United Nations General Assembly was then only four weeks away, due to open on September 21. A very logical and well-backed resolution had been submitted by 24 countries (since increased to 31), going beyond the pro-Pyongyang resolution passed by the UN last year. It sets out three important principles.

* Demands the immediate cessation of all acts of foreign military involvement and aggression against Korea, the immediate withdrawal of new types of weapons and military equipment, including nuclear weapons introduced into south Korea, and an end to acts aggravating the tension and increasing the danger of a new war in Korea.

* Appeals to all the members of the UN to check all acts of interfering in the internal affairs of Korea and fabricating "two Koreas" to hinder reunification.

* Hopes that the reunification of Korea will be realized by the Korean people themselves without the interference of any outside forces, through such forms of negotiation and dialogue as a great national congress which may extensively reflect the will of all the nation, in accordance with the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity clarified in the North-South joint statement of July 4, 1972.

There is every likelihood that this resolution will be supported by an overwhelming majority of countries this year, while of course a nebulous counter-proposal will be made by the pro-Seoul group, led by the USA and Japan, which according to current reports will contain two points.

—A proposal for speedy resumption of South-North talks for a peaceful reunification.

—A call for the early holding of a dialogue among countries "directly concerned" with the Korea problem, including South and North Korea, to revise the existing armistice agreement or establish a "permanent measure" to replace the agreement so that the UN Command in South Korea can be disbanded.

It should be noted further, that the Conference of Non-aligned States has just ended in Colombo, Sri Lanka. Here, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was both strongly represented and strongly supported, and this is likely to bring overwhelming support behind the resolution of the original 24 countries no matter what arm-twisting and bribery the U.S. engages in at the UN.

There was also a political declaration adopted by the Non-aligned States, demanding that the imperialists stop their maneuvers to provoke war, and remove their nuclear weapons, military installations and all other means of war from south Korea; calling for withdrawal of all foreign troops, the closure of all military bases, termination of the "United Nations Command" and replacement of the armistice agreement with a durable peace agreement.

The Conference supported the people's desire to re-unite their country peacefully and without outside interference, based on the three principles of re-unification set out in the joint statement of July 4, 1972.

The backing of the D.P.R.K. is growing stronger each year, with more and more countries realizing that the intention of the leadership and the people of that country is that the whole country, north and south, should be re-united by independent peaceful negotiations, that the tensions must be reduced and the danger of nuclear war ended, which of course requires the ending of the occupation of the country by foreign troops, i. e. U.S. troops.

In view of this time- and history-conditioned trend, what is the U.S. and Seoul to do? The Democratic People's Republic of Korea must be made to appear as a belligerent, aggressive country of violence and brutality. It must be shown to have committed an un-provoked act of brutal aggression, and, in defiance of the actual records of the happening, it is this picture that has been and is being presented through the mass media of the West. For example, there is this statement from the State Department (A.P. 19/8/76).

"This brutal behavior by the North Korean regime tells us something of its true nature," the State Department said.

It "demonstrates the hollowness of North Korea's alleged desire for a peaceful resolution of the differences that exist between it and South Korea," it added.

Spokesman Frederick Z. Brown said the North Koreans possibly were interested in raising tensions to prove their claim that there is a danger of war on the Korean Peninsula. He also said the incident may be linked to North Korea's criticism of the United States at a summit conference of non-aligned nations in Sri Lanka.

"The North Koreans have falsely charged that the personnel of the United Nations Command first assaulted North Korean guards," the State Department said, "This is a lie and a flagrant attempt to deceive."

For these statements to be sustained, it would have to be demonstrated that the north Koreans are not only barbaric, but also stupid, for it would have been the height of stupidity for the north to have provoked this incident just at the time when all countries are being called on to support their demand for the peaceful reunification of their country and for U.S. troops to get out of south Korea.

To those who know the history of this 1950-76 period, clearly it is the U.S. that has demonstrated the gross barbarity of its policy and its military forces, backed up by lies upon lies, and that goes right through to the Supreme Commander, the President, by the activities in Vietnam, and before that, in the Korean War of 1950. It is also clear that it is the south Korean military dictatorship that is brutally barbaric and repressive, meriting the term "fascist" in its most accurate and non-emotive meaning. And its troops sent on the demand of the U.S.A. to South Vietnam earned a reputation for barbarity, sadism and savagery unequally in modern warfare. For those who want to read the whole sordid story I recommend "The American Utilization of South Korean Troops in Vietnam" by Dr. Frank Baldwin and "Allies Called Koreans—A Report from Vietnam" by Diane and Michael Jones, both of which articles were published first by the American Friends Service Committee, and then in "Korean Studies, Vol. 1 No. 1," 1976.

And when it comes to stupidity, can anything equal Watergate? Lies ARE stupid. And the accumulation of lies upon lies that were used to justify Vietnam, as exposed by the Pentagon Papers, followed by Watergate, now exposed by "All the President's Men"—such lies as these are still the common currency used to try to justify the latest Panmunjom incident and tell the world what barbarians the north Koreans are.

So let us lay the facts on the line.

At 10:45 a.m. on the 18th of August, a detail made up of U.S. officers, U.S. and Korean Security forces and workmen, some 14 in all, came up to a point right beside the Panmungyo bridge and started to cut down a big tree standing there—in the JOINT SECURITY AREA. It was a big tree. It had stood there for years. It was planted and cared for by the north Koreans. No-one had complained of it being there, and it could be legally removed only by the agreement of both sides.

Security personnel of the north went out and remonstrated with the work party cutting the tree down, demanding that it be left as it was, except by pre-arrangement. These protesters were attacked by the work party, which of course outnumbered the northerners, and further security officers of the north came to the rescue of their comrades, and we know the tragic outcome—"two Americans were killed"—note how this is repeated. Never mind the Koreans; "two AMERICANS were killed."

Did the security forces of the D.P.R.K. over react? Possibly. It was not exactly an exercise of friendship. It was super-charged with tension and fierce feelings, whoever struck the first blow, and as the American press keeps on re-iterating, "two Americans were hacked to death in an unprovoked assault." When tempers flare, it is always beyond reason, but "hacked to death" invites comment. "Killed with their own tools" would be fair comment, but death by bombs or blades differs only in the greater brutality of the former. Ask the Vietnamese what the difference is.

Was it unprovoked? The whole U.S.-created incident was a provocation. The U.S. had no "right" to cut the years-old, Korean-planted poplar down, nor to attack those who protested. The fact is that the very presence of U.S. troops there is a provocation. The U.S. forces, the hated enemy, killed millions of Koreans in the 1950-53 war, and having used their own puppets, first Syngman Rhee and now Park Chung Hee, these forces keep the country divided still today, 30 years after "liberation", which is a fact in the north but a fiction in the south, an occupied country kept in servitude to U.S. neo-colonialist capitalism and its foreign policy and military aims.

Look at the sequence of events and see how it was provoked. According to UPI, Asst. Sec. A.W. Hummel Jr, testifying before a House international affairs sub-committee, said that a UN Command work-party tried unsuccessfully to cut the tree down on August 6. North Korean guards told them to leave the tree alone—and they did.

Then top level orders were given to go in and cut it down. According to an AP despatch of Aug. 23 it was President Ford himself, in spite of his deep involvement in US internal politics, who issued the order. The Pentagon—or the Secretary of State—needed the incident because of what was planned to follow. So, on the 18th the work party came in and started again. Apparently they made a pretext of merely "trimming" the tree, which was not objected to, and then proceeded to cut it down. That's when the trouble started.

No provocation? Consider the pretext for wanting the tree down. It obstructed the view of those watching to see what the north Koreans were up to! Was ever anything so feeble! US spy satellites are patrolling the sky every minute of the day and night, monitoring everything that takes place, apparently able to record even the movement of a guard who picks his nose! The whole thing was "made in the USA."

So all hell was let loose.

U.S. troops were placed on full alert. Squadrons of fighter-bombers were flown in from Okinawa, Japan, and the U.S. mainland.

A task force of the 7th Fleet was deployed to Korean waters, and the nuclear equipped aircraft carrier Midway left Japan for Korea in a massive show of force. By the 20th all U.S. forces in Korea were in "full combat gear"—while the Pentagon said "no plans for military action at this time, but I'm not ruling anything out."

Park Chung Hee, the south Korean dictator, mimicking the big boss, also threatened to let all hell loose, "we will take immediate punitive measures", and rallied his state controlled puppets into demonstrations to chant " anti-communist slogans."

"The tenstion in Korea is the highest ever" says Park. Well, of course, that's what he wants. He's been working at keeping it this way for 15 years, ever since he took over the Government in a military coup d'etat in May 1961, and he must keep it that way to survive. But he doesn't want a war, it would seem. When a dictator lives in fear of the suppressed anger of his people, and cannot trust his own army of 600,000, he can only hold on to power by more suppression and constant tension. He rules by fear and maintains the "threat from the north" bogey. But he doesn't want a war he couldn't win.

Tension—that is what he wants. That's how he keeps the military money rolling in from the U.S.A. That's how he keeps the 42,000 U.S. armed forces there. That's how he gets the nuclear weapons brought in. That's how he earns praise from Ford and Kissinger—doing just what the U.S. wants him to do. And now, on this put-up Panmunjom show, the U.S. will use the incident to try to get the UN to back Park.

Then came the ultimate in U.S. chauvinism and new levels of absurdity. On the 21st the U.S. sent some 300 troops, operating under the UN flag, with the support of jet fighters, helicopters, and even B52 bombers over the area while another work team proceeded to cut down the offending tree. How typical an American response! No petty little socialist state can defy the will of the U.S.A.! We'll blast them to hell (in the name of the UNO!) if they interfere!

Is it any wonder the third world is rising in protest against this paranoiac U.S. domination? Is it any wonder the Conference of Non-aligned States blasted U.S. imperialism and neo-colonialism? But then, "it is foolish to expect anything else from the 'non-aligned'", mocked the Washington Post, when they seconded north Korea's call for the dissolution of the United Nations Command and for the withdrawal of American forces, almost the tone and voice of Moynihan in the 1975 UN General Assembly.

(To be continued)

U.S. Bases in Japan Must Be Dismantled

Rodong Sinmun (organ of the C.C. of W.P.K.) September 20 in an article draws attention of the world public to the further conversion of the whole territory of Japan into an advance base, operational and supply base and nuclear offensive base of the U.S. imperialists for Korean aggression, and strongly demands that the U.S. army bases in Japan be dismantled.

Recalling that from two or three days before the August 18 Panmunjom incident provoked by the U.S. imperialists the taking off and landing exercise of the U.S. air force planes was staged in a tense atmosphere at Iwakuni base, Yamaguchi Prefecture, in the western part of Japan and no sooner had the Panmunjom incident taken place than large-scale dispatch of armed forces from the U.S. army bases in Japan including this base to south Korea started, the article says:

The Japanese government not only kept silence on the U.S. imperialists' recent free use of the territory of Japan as an advance base, operational and supply base to ignite a war of aggression in Korea but fully cooperated with them. It went so far as to allow the U.S. imperialist aggressors to bring into the territory of Japan aircraft and warships carrying nuclear weapons and send them from there, violating the sovereignty of Japan and threatening her security.

This clearly shows that the Japanese reactionaries are not only actively cooperating with the U.S. imperialists in their manoeuvres to start a war of aggression in Korea but also harbouring the heinous design to directly partake in it and get a profit from it.

At the U.S.-Japan summit talks held in August last year Miki guaranteed the U.S. imperialists' free use of bases in Japan in case of war in Korea. And, at a number of subsequent talks between the U.S. and Japan the Japanese government gave a secret promise to allow the U.S. troops to use Japanese bases.

It was based on the promise between the U.S. and Japanese reactionary governments that the U.S. imperialists freely put Japanese bases in a combat and operational posture. This proves that there is the great danger of automatically involving Japan into war under the "U.S.-Japan security pact" in case the U.S. imperialists start a war of aggression in Korea.

Japan is, in actuality, being dragged into the dangerous road, shackled to the war chariot of the U.S. imperialists.

The article says:

The aggression forces of the U.S. imperialists are concentrated on Japan and the U.S. army bases there further reinforced. This goes against the trend of the times when the U.S. troops are being expelled from all parts of Asia and their bases removed by the powerful torrent of liberation and independence.

This is an encroachment upon the independence and sovereignty of Japan and an insult to the national dignity of the Japanese people.

Moreover, at a time when the U.S. imperialists, being kicked out of Asia after sustaining one defeat after another, are speeding up war preparations to commit adventure in Korea, the Japanese reactionaries are actively partaking in it, even offering Japanese bases to them. This is an ignominious complicity and another indelible blot in Asian history.

Offering Japanese bases to the U.S. imperialists for their war manoeuvres against the Korean people means that Japan is used for the U.S. imperialists' aggressive purpose. This is a stupid act leading Japan to disasters.

The article further says:

The Japanese government must refrain from partaking in the U.S. imperialists' aggressive war manoeuvres against the Korean people and stop obstructing Korea's reunification.

If the Japanese government truly wants peace in the Far East and Asia, it must work to make the U.S. imperialist aggression troops, the root cause of war, withdraw from south Korea and Japan. This is the demand of the Japanese people and the rest of the Asian people and the demand of the times.

If the Japanese government persists in the disgraceful U.S.-toeing policy and joins the U.S. imperialists in case of a war of aggression in Korea, it will be unable to escape the bitter denunciation of and isolation from the peace-loving people of Asia and the world. (KCNA)

Photo shows the Yokota U.S. military base, Japan, a major airlift centre for operations in Korea.

S. Korean "Budget Bill"

The Pak Jung Hi puppet clique September 14 made public the "budget bill" of the puppet government for next year set 32.1 per cent above this year's original "budget," according to a report from Seoul.

This "budget bill" published by the gangsters with prior "approval" of their master is, by all yardsticks, an anti-popular "bill" designed to make haste with the provocation of a war against the northern half of the Republic, intensify the suppression and plunder of the people and maintain the system of fascist "revitalized" dictatorship.

This was made all the clearer when the director of the puppet economic planning board "explained" the "budget bill" at the so-called "joint committee on budget and audit" of the "Republican Party" and "Yujonghoe" gangs that day.

The wretch blared that a maximum extortion was expected for the "compilation of a balanced budget without a deficit" and, in expenditures, the appropriations for "increasing independent defence capacity" and "general expenses" for the upkeep and expansion of the repressive tools were sharply raised for the maintenance of the system of "revitalized" dictatorship.

In the "budgetary" expenditures, the gangsters allot 925,000 million won as "defence spendings", the direct military expenses, or 31.3 per cent more than those in the current fiscal year, and earmark 564,100 million won, an increase of 35.9 per cent, as the so-called "economic development appropriations," the indirect military spendings.

With these sharply increased war expenses, the puppet clique intend to modernize and reinforce the arms equipment of the puppet army by hastening the "five year plan for the modernization" of it at feverish speed and accelerate the militarization of the economy so they could produce some categories of arms equipment for the puppet army.

And they plan to complete the pavement of 53 per cent of the main roads next year, expand the Kimpo and Kimhae airfields, enlarge the Pusan port to accommodate a number of large warships at a time and largely expand the Kunsan port, too, which is reflected in their "defence spendings" and "economic development appropriations".

In the "budgetary" expenditures, the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique set the "general spendings," the expenses for the upkeep of the fascist rule at 291,400 million won, or 35.7 per cent above that in the current fiscal year.

With this colossal fund, the rascals scheme to expand on a large scale such fascist repressive machines as the puppet Central Intelligence Agency, prosecution and police and markedly increase their personnel and raise the "detective expenses" to 400 per cent as compared with this year for the arrest, imprisonment and murder of the patriotic people and revolutionaries opposing the fascist "revitalized system" and demanding the democratization of south Korean society and the reunification of the country.

The puppet clique blab that they have, on the contrary, "boldly cut" the appropriations for the domains vitally related to the people's living and for education and public health and the farm and fishing villages.

Seeking a permanent split of the country, the Pak Jung Hi traitors thus envisage stupendous expenditures for the provocation of a war and the reinforcement of the fascist "revitalized system" and intend to cover them entirely by brigandish plunder of the south Korean people.

Suffice it to recall that they plan to obtain 93.9 per cent of the "budgetary" revenues from tax levies upon the people.

As seen in the above, the "budget bill" of the puppet government for next year put forth by the traitorous Pak Jung Hi clique is a war "budget" aimed at actively backing the U.S. imperialists' "two Koreas" plot and aggressive policy of the U.S. imperialists, a repressive "budget" for shoring up the fascist "revitalized system" and a predatory "budget" for attaining all this by bleeding the south Korean people white.

No wonder this "budgetary bill" was greeted with bursts of angry voices of the south Korean people and public circles demanding its withdrawal.

U.S. Military Budget

The U.S. Senate September 13 approved a defence budget of 104,300 million dollars for fiscal 1977 which was passed through the House of Representatives last week, according to a foreign press report.

This defence budget, an all-time high in the blood-stained U.S. history, fully reveals the most aggressive and bellicose nature of imperialism.

A major provision of the U.S. imperialists' defence bill concerns the production of strategic bombers and development of a greater number of new-type weapons and extensive reinforcement of the aggression forces of their local puppets.

This shows with added clarity how feverishly the U.S. imperialists are trying to stamp out the struggle of the progressive people against imperialism and for independence and speed up preparations for war of aggression against revolutionary people, putting up the spurious signboard of "peace".

In the new fiscal year the U.S. imperialists set the expenses for the upkeep of their aggression troops occupying south Korea at 900 million dollars, far greater than those in the previous fiscal years, with a plan to ship more combat equipment of various types into south Korea.

This is another unpardonable vicious challenge to the Korean people struggling for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country and a new challenge to the world progressive people demanding an end to the U.S. imperialist aggression troops' occupation of south Korea, the root cause of war in Korea.

They are leaving no stone unturned to find a way out of their serious crisis at home and abroad in the aggression and war and trying to impose another disaster of war upon Korea which they declared their "forward defence zone".

With no amount of artifice, however, can the U.S. imperialists frighten the Korean people or break their unshakable determination to achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

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